A China primarily agricultural and rural has been forced into a world which is increasingly industrial and urban. Religiously China has been Confucian, Taoist, and Buddhist, with a strong admixture of animism and with occasional scepticism. It has had to face an Occident which in philosophy and religion is the heir of Greek, Hebrew, and Christian traditions and which at present displays a strong tendency to discredit and discard all religion. A people organized in part on the patriarchal basis and in which the individual and even the state have been subordinated to the family has been invaded by *mores* from a huge section of the world where the individual has been exalted, where the family is disintegrating, and where subordination of the individual, when it occurs, as it does increasingly, is to the state. An intellectual culture of a very high order but in which literary form, ethical and social content, and a subjective philosophy—which looks within to the human spirit—have been the chief preoccupations has had to face a world which has created the scientific method, is in possession of an amazing and rapidly growing knowledge and control of its physical environment and in which the premium is upon discoveries in the natural sciences. A people among whom the education of the schools was the privilege of the few and was primarily for the purpose of training state officials has been thrown into competition with a world in which the ideal is an elementary school education for all. Artistic traditions hallowed by centuries of development and of high achievement have been rudely challenged by the products of quite different historical processes. A people whose socially dominant classes have been uninterested in the development of the body and in

athletic sports has been forced into an age whose standards are set by those who rejoice in a sound body and in games involving physical competition. The contrasts between the two civilizations could be multiplied. One world of traditions and customs has been rudely entered and mastered by another with quite a different background.

Some similarities, to be sure, exist between the old China and the modern West. The Chinese have been this-worldly and interested in constructing a civilization which will bring physical comfort to all its members. So increasingly is the Occident. By tradition the Chinese are disposed to take kindly to the scientific